

NO CHILDREN THERE NOW.

White House Has None for the First Time in Many Administrations.
There are no children in the white house now, says a Washington letter to the Chicago Inter Ocean. It is the first administration since that of Buchanan where there have not been children in the president's family. Lincoln had three boys when he came to the white house, and the Christmas festival was celebrated with enthusiasm in the good old-fashioned way with a Santa Claus. Grant had his three boys and the pretty Nellie to make merry at Christmas time. Hayes had a complete domestic household, with romping boys and a winsome little girl, who has grown to womanhood and has recently been spending her honeymoon at the white house, where she was a child. Garfield and Arthur had children to celebrate Christmas, and Cleveland in the last year of his first administration had a baby girl to make Christmas for. Harrison's children were grown to manhood, but he had his grandchildren with him in the white house, and Baby McKee became a more celebrated character in the child history of the white house than any since Ted Lincoln. In Cleveland's second administration there were two little girls to welcome Santa Claus. There are pictures of two beautiful babies in Mrs. McKinley's room and many fond remembrances of them, but they sleep in the old graveyard at Canton, where they were buried many years ago.

No president ever occupied the white house who was fonder of children than the present chief magistrate. No mistress of the white house ever had more loving care for the babies of others than has Mrs. McKinley. They both love the prattle of children and gather the little ones of their friends about them when opportunity offers.

EMPEROR ENGINEER.

The German Monarch to Decide on an Electric Tramway.

To act at one and the same time as German emperor and king of Prussia is no sinecure, says the Pall Mall Gazette. In addition to the functions naturally pertaining to his exalted position he has to solve a terrifying number of questions that in other countries would be reserved for the municipal authorities. Thus the question as to the system of electric tramways to be adopted in Berlin is lying in the Kaiser's cabinet for final decision. The plan of the lines has already been approved, but the system of conducting the current has not been settled. The emperor has therefore to act, as it were, as imperial engineer in deciding between overhead wires and underground conductors or accumulator cars. As soon as he has pronounced his verdict, Berlin will be provided with the largest system of electrical tramways on the continent. The Berlin Tramway company has already completed its preparations, the lines are laid and the cars are ready; only the wires and poles for conducting the current have to be procured. Everything, therefore, will be in full working order by the summer. The emperor is certainly taking plenty of time for his decision, for the plans have been in his civil cabinet since October, and are still without his signature.

AN EGG TRICK.

Mean One Played by Klondike's "Swifwater Bill."

Mr. Wardner, reports the Milwaukee Sentinel, exhibited a paper in which was an article on the Klondike and a portrait showing a French-looking man with a big diamond in his shirt front, swell cut of clothes and a stovepipe hat the prince of Wales would have been proud to wear. Mr. Wardner laughed as he looked at the picture again and related some anecdotes of "Swifwater Bill," the man who had struck "\$5,000" to the square foot on bedrock. "Bill," had the second best claim on the Yukon, and was so self-important on his return that he kept a private secretary through whom the reporters had to interview him. He married the sister of Gussie La More, a vaudeville dancer who danced in a tent in Dawson. "Swifwater Bill" paid her attention, but got mad at the dancer and married her sister. The dancer was very fond of eggs while in Dawson, and after their quarrel "Bill" bought up every egg there was in the place, paying one dollar apiece for them to the number of about 400, and then ate his meals near her so as to enjoy her annoyance at not being able to have her egg order filled. While he was eating his fill of eggs in a tantalizing way she had to be content with bacon at \$25 an order.

CURLY-HEADED MEN AS JURORS.

Lawyers Dislike Them Because They Are Not Easily Convinced.

It is not generally known that there is a well-defined prejudice against curly haired men when it comes to choosing a jury to try criminal cases, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat. The prejudice, when it is manifested, comes from the defense. When asked to explain the objection to curly-haired men, a prominent practitioner said: "When I was just starting my legal mentor inculcated that idea to me. He said that curly-haired men had almost invariably been the pampered darlings of their parents and in their youth had been so used to having their own way that they had come to believe that everybody on earth was wrong except themselves. In this way the seeds of opposition were sown, and when they grow older they make a point to disagree with everybody and everything. If everybody else on the jury votes for acquittal they vote for conviction as a matter of course. They live on combat and are as stubborn as the days are long. A curly haired man never gets on a jury when I am defending a man if I can see him in time."

Tunnel by Ants.
The ants of South America have been known to construct a tunnel three miles in length.

WIT AND WISDOM.

"Your son is an actor, you say, Mr. Maginnis?" "Faith he is." "And what role does he play?" "Rolls, is it?" "Faith, he rolls up the curtain."—Tit-Bits.
—Wallace—"You are positively the most impudent and greediest beggar I ever met." Wayworn Watson—"Well, that sort to be worth a nickel, anyhow."—Indianapolis Journal.
—The Butler—"Hand hevery night at the hour of midnight the ghost appears, and groans and wrings its hands." Tourist—"Ah, must have died in the cucumber season!"—Tit-Bits.
—A Revision.—Rev. Sainly—"Ah, well, the paths of glory, you know, lead but to the grave." Rising Novelist—"Nonsense. The paths of glory lead to the lecture platform."—Chicago News.

—Tommy's Inference.—Teacher—"What do we learn from the story of Samson?" Tommy (with unpleasant results still manifest)—"That it doesn't pay to have women folks cut a feller's hair."—Brooklyn Life.

—"What school of music does the professor represent?" inquired Mrs. Cumrox. "I don't know," her husband answered; "but from the way it sounded to me I should say it was the kindergarten."—Washington Star.

—Promoter—"You needn't be a bit afraid. The company is perfectly safe." The Lamb—"Oh, I've no doubt about the company's being safe enough. I was thinking about the safety of my money."—Boston Transcript.

—"You say there is only one train a day from this station?" said the lady at the ticket-office. "Only one, madam," was the reply. "Is the train on time?" "No, it is about 50 minutes late." "Too bad, I want to get to Pokenville the worst way." "Well, this is the road you want to take."—Yonkers Statesman.

—Reassuring Her.—"I get so down-hearted sometimes, doctor, that I am almost on the point of despairing of being cured by medicines at all and going to the faith healers." "Humbog, my dear madam! Transparent humbug. Here is something that will do you more good than all the faith doctors in the world can do you." And he gave her a bread pill.—Chicago Tribune.

SOME COINCIDENCES.

The First and Third Napoleons—Kaiser Wilhelm and Wagner.

That coincidences should dog the steps of the great is perhaps not very remarkable, considering how bright a light beats upon them, but in some instances the coincidence is not a little remarkable. It has been pointed out ere this that the letter M dogged the Napoleon family throughout their career, and one has only to look back at the events that have happened in that family to see how true the assertion is. The great Napoleon's first battle was Montenotte, his last Mont St. Jean; Marengo was his first great victory, Moscow was the beginning of the end. Twenty-six of his generals had names beginning with M, and his marshals included Massena, Mortier, Marmont, MacDonald, Murat and Moutey. Maitland took him prisoner, and Montholon and Marchand accompanied him to exile.

With regard to the third Napoleon, his career fairly bristles with M's. Moreith de Montellier was his tutor; he married the countess of Montijo; Malakoff, Montebello, Magenta, Marignan, Milan and Mantua mark several of the military episodes of his reign, when MacMahon was chief among his marshals, and, finally, the Moselle, Metz and Moltke loom largely in his debacle. It has also been pointed out that if we add the figures that form the date of Napoleon III's marriage to that year, the result is the same, i. e.: 1 plus 8 plus 0 plus 8 plus 1853 equals 1870; again, if we add the figures of the year of his birth to the same year, the result is the same, i. e.: 1 plus 8 plus 0 plus 8 plus 1853 equals 1870; moreover, as the empress was born in 1826, the same result can be obtained in yet another manner, i. e.: 1 plus 8 plus 2 plus 6 plus 1853 equals 1870.

Her majesty's favorite figure is said to be the figure 9; she and Prince Consort were both born in the year 1819, she was 19 when she ascended the throne, and the ninth sovereign in succession after the revolution of 1688. The prince of Wales was born on the 9th of November, and the princess of Wales at the time of her marriage was 19. The same figure appears to haunt Kaiser Wilhelm, who was born in 1859, entered the army in 1869, and completed his university career in 1879. He is also the ninth king of Prussia, and the date of his birth and marriage, January 27 and February 27, both make nine if the figures 2 and 7 are added together.

The square root of 9 is 3, which is said to be the figure that clings most closely to Bismarck. Richard Wagner (13 letters) was born in 1813 (1 plus 8 plus 1 plus 3 equals 13), and died on February 13, 1883, having composed 13 works. "Tannhauser," completed on April 13, 1845, was first performed on March 13, 1861, which may be written 13-9-61, and 1 plus 3 plus 9 equals 13. With regard to the figure 13, it is somewhat strange that on the United States quarter dollar there are depicted 13 stars, 13 letters in the scroll which the eagle holds in its claws, 13 feathers comprising the eagle's wing, and the same number forming its tail; there are also 13 parallel lines and 13 horizontal stripes, 13 arrowheads and 13 letters in the words "quarter dollar"—no wonder that the silverites enjoyed defeat at the last election.—London Standard.

A Villainous Schemer.
"Why have you decided to let your whiskers grow?"
"I heard my wife's mother say, the other day, that she couldn't see a man with whiskers eating without losing her appetite."—Cleveland Leader.

THE MISSOURI STATE BANK, of Butler, Missouri.

PAID CAPITAL, - - - \$55,000 00.

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Authorized by law to act as Assignee, Receiver, Trustee, Executor or Administrator.

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FEED BARN.

I am running a first-class Feed Barn opposite Laclede Hotel. Farmers patronage respectfully solicited. I want all the

GOOD HAY IN BATES COUNTY.

See me for prices. Want five to ten car loads of good oats for which I will pay the highest price.

B. F. JOHNSON,

BUTLER, MO.

DEATH OF GEN. ROSECRANS.

Old Warrior Passes Peacefully Away on His California Ranch.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 11.—Gen. W. S. Rosecrans died this morning at 7 o'clock at his home near Redondo. The old warrior's death was peaceful in the extreme. For several days he has been between life and death, at times unconscious, and again in a comatose state. His splendid vitality has kept him alive for days.

William Stark Rosecrans was born in Kingston, Delaware county, O., September 6, 1819. His parents were of old Dutch stock. He was reared on a farm and educated at the public schools. He became a clerk in a store and in 1837 applied to the Secretary of War for appointment to West Point Military Academy.

At the beginning of the war Gen. Rosecrans was a private citizen. When it became evident that military operations must become necessary to crush the rebellion, he offered his services to Gen. Dennison, of Ohio, and he was requested to act as engineer and lay out Fort Dennison. He went to Washington later, and was given the position of chief engineer of Ohio, with the rank of Colonel. He was commissioned Colonel of the 23rd Ohio regiment later, and entered the field, and within three days was commissioned Brigadier General. He took the field in West Virginia at once.

His first important action was at Rich Mountain, which he won. Gen. Rosecrans succeeded General McClellan in the Department of Ohio. He had command of the national forces and defeated Gen. John B. Floyd at Carnifex Ferry, September 10, 1861, thwarting Lee's attempt to gain a footing in Western Virginia. He participated in the battle of Corinth and afterward took command of the Army of the Mississippi. He defeated General Sterling Price, and pursued him forty miles. He was made commander of the Department of the Cumberland, which position he held from October 27, 1862, to October 19, 1863. He commanded in the battle about Murfreesborough

one of the bloodiest and most decisive of the war. He drove Bragg out of Middle Tennessee in fifteen days.

Gen. Rosecrans commanded at the great battle around Chattanooga and held Chattanooga, the objective point. The battle was a victory for the confederates. Gen. Rosecrans was relieved in 1864, and assigned to the Department of the Missouri. He was mustered out of the volunteer service in January 1866 and resigned from the army in March, 1867. He had been breveted Major General. He was appointed Minister to Mexico in July 1868, and held the office until June, 1869. He mined in Mexico and manufactured powder in San Francisco. He was elected to Congress from California and served four years. He then settled on his ranch near Redondo, Los Angeles county. His wife, the daughter of Judge Hegeman, of New York, died in 1878.

Prisoners' Daring Escape.

Perry, Okla., March 13.—For ten hours Jailer Wells, of the county jail here, lay in a prisoner's cell, tied and gagged, last night and to-day, while the inmates of the jail were fleeing from the country. John A. Demoss and C. D. Hill, two horse thieves, are among the numerous escapes.

About 11 o'clock last night John Demoss called Wells, and said he was sick and wanted water or some medicine. Wells went into the corridor of the jail, and no sooner had he opened the door and stepped inside than he was bound hand and foot and gagged and thrown into a cell and locked in. The prisoners then secured all the firearms in the jail office and skipped, leaving the jailer helpless. He was released this morning by the sheriff. Officers are in pursuit of the fleeing prisoners.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve

The Best Salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by H. L. Tucker.

GRUESOME LIVING PICTURES.

Photographic Record of an Important Surgical Operation.

A machine has been devised for the taking and exhibiting of living pictures, which is so compact in its construction that these pictures may be taken almost as readily as any snapshot, and when developed and printed may be shown with just as much convenience. Any room will answer the purpose, without any special arrangements for exhibition. This is the patent of S. Lubin, of Philadelphia, and he is at present making arrangements to place one of these instruments in the operating-room of one of the hospitals of that city, with a view of obtaining a lasting record of every detail of an important operation, which will take place in the course of a few weeks. This will be the first time that such practical use has been made of this instrument. The film will be many miles long, and if the operation is successful the record will be sent to London, where it will be repeated, the physicians there having for their guide the pictures, with which they have been made thoroughly acquainted beforehand.

By this means the English doctors will be enabled to acquaint themselves with the method and technique of a celebrated Philadelphia savant, who has achieved a world-wide reputation as a specialist. They will have also for their guide a written account of the operation, with which they will then be just as well equipped for the work as if they had been present at the original operation in that city, thereby saving the time and expense of a trip across the ocean.

Because of the extreme portability of the machine, it can likewise be carried into a home, and a living picture secured of one's relatives. The loving care and affection of a mother's tender attention to her offspring or the scene of a death chamber can be reproduced with absolute realism in after years. Many other household scenes could be preserved and shown at will, being reproduced with a fidelity that could not be equaled by any portrait, no matter what might be its cost or who the artist may be.

Mr. Lubin has recently taken a set of these pictures for a New York millionaire, who now has a picture of each member of his family, showing them just as they are to be seen every day moving around the house. The pictures are taken and shown by electricity, supplied by batteries. A recent improvement in the cineograph has been the combination of a stereopticon with a machine for showing the living pictures. This is a great convenience when used for amusement hall purposes, as the performance can be made continuous without the break that has heretofore been necessary while the films are being changed.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

AMAZONS OF ITALIAN FIELDS.

A Land Where Woman Is Not the Gentler Sex.

A great deal has been said and felt about the women of the lower classes working in the fields, and of the hard manual labor they are called to perform. In the light of the ideas that women should be delicate and refined physically, doubtless the broad backs, hard muscles and heavy, knotted frames of peasants we see appear discordant and unseemly. Fisher women at Dieppe or Whitby, we know, and alongshore everywhere hold their own against town councils when they dictate the policy of town governments. In moments of danger, when the signal gun summons the populace to scenes of danger, then these women, the wives and mothers of the fishermen, man the lifeboats and breast the waves, going to the rescue of their relatives in distress. Yet these fierce, strong women scarcely fill the modern idea of what womanhood should be.

Now, however, very recently, when it is the fad that women should be athletic, broad-shouldered and deep-lunged, to say nothing of the wider education of our highbred and healthy modern girls, the question arises among the observant, why working in fields or carrying burdens is, after all, such a hardship and degradation to the peasant woman more than to the peasant man. Too much labor and great toil doubtless break down and age both sexes.

But Disraeli spoke of women as of the gentler, if not the weaker sex; and when, in Monte Sacro, I saw women swinging the scythe with broad swathes, or cutting the sweet hay on the mountain sides with their sickles, and then filling up tall, pannier-like straw baskets, which they bore away on their shoulders filled with fragrant grass for the cattle, I asked myself if, after all, in their present civilization, these women of Valtellina-Sesia, at least, could be better or more healthily employed. They sang as they worked, and bright and bronzed cheeks spoke of healthy toil.—Scribner's.

Romans Used Hollow Bricks.

Hollow wedge bricks were used by the Romans for constructing arches at their baths at Bath, England. According to the Engineer, the roofs of the dressing-rooms were covered in some instances with flat brick arches, and, as these would have fallen in by their own weight if constructed in the ordinary manner, hollow voussoirs were molded with a semicylindrical projection on one radial side, and a semicylindrical cavity to correspond on the other. The bricks were about one foot long from intrados to extrados and ten inches wide on the back. They were finished well, and apparently of fire-burnt, ordinary clay.—Chicago Chronicle.

Mexican Torch Thistle.

The Mexican torch thistle, growing to a height of 50 or 60 feet, looks more like a candleabra than a tree. Another variety of the same species has long, gray bristles, which give it the appearance of the head of an old, gray-headed man.—Chicago Tribune.

—The largest mass of pure rock salt in the world is in Galicia, Hungary. It is 350 miles long, 20 broad and 250 feet in thickness.

COOK CALLS A CONVENTION.

Asks Democratic Delegates to Meet at Springfield August 10.

St. Louis, Mo., March 13.—Chairman Sam B. Cook, of the Democratic State committee, has issued a call for the state convention to be held at Springfield August 10. This convention will have 721 delegates and will be the largest ever held by the democratic party in this state.

Candidates will be nominated for Supreme Judge for the term ending January 1, 1899, and for the unexpired portion of the term ending January 1st, 1903; for railroad and warehouse commissioners and superintendent of public instruction, and there will be elected a chairman of the Democratic State central committee and two members of the committee from each congressional district of the state.

Chairman Cook is said to be a candidate for reelection to the chairmanship of the State committee, notwithstanding it is reported that he is still in the race for the democratic nomination for governor.

Texas' Patriotic Offer.

Waco, Tex., March 12.—In an informal meeting of business men to night at the Citizens' National Bank of Waco, a proposition to offer President McKinley funds without interest for war purposes received cordial indorsement. Among those present were J. S. McLendon, president of the Citizens' National Bank; Ed Rotan, president of the First National Bank; Tom Davis, vice president of the Citizens' National Bank, and W. D. Lacy, a cotton compress man and large manufacturer. Mr. Lacy said:

"We will put up \$25,000 for the use of our government in case of war, and I believe \$100,000,000 can be raised in the South on the same terms. If the government gets short of cash, no bond issue will be needed. The people will let Uncle Sam have plenty of money."

Of the business men in the meeting all except one served in the Confederate army, and that one was too young for army service when the war closed.

Gen. Gomez Talks.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 13.—A letter, the second to arrive within two weeks, came Saturday afternoon from Maj. William Cox, of the Cuban army, formerly of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. It came in remarkably quick time, being only seven days on the way from Gen. Gomez's headquarters, in Eastern Santa Clara, to this city, indicating that it was carried to Havana, and there sent via the Cuban mail system to Tampa. Maj. Cox says in part:

"The disaster to the American ship, the Maine, is the talk of the insurgent army now. There is not a man who does not believe it was the result of Spanish scheming. I returned to this place only yesterday and I reported to Gomez. When I spoke to him about the Maine affair he said:

"I hope this will teach the Americans what sort of people these devils are who claim to govern Cuba."

"I asked Gen. Gomez if he thought there would be war between Spain and the United States. This he answered by saying: 'If there is not war, then the Americans are not the people I think them to be.'"

Happy Hill Items.

Willie Allen and wife spent Sunday at Hume.

George Jobe and family took their departure for California last Friday, where they intend to reside in the future.

Joseph Bomar is visiting friends and relatives in this community.

Willie Harkins is reported better. Mary Pontius of Pleasant Gap, visited Mary Butler a few days last week. Rev. Trone will preach at Mt. Zion next Sunday.

Mrs. Wm. Allen visited at Mr. Oland's one day last week.

Mr. Booth is plowing for corn.

Cash Swan has rented some land from Frank Gench.

Wm. Higgins went to Rich Hill Saturday.

Fred Gillard has purchased a new wheel.

Wm. Douglas purchased a horse of Alex. Wilson last week.

We're talking of having and old bachelor's sale at Happy Hill soon; there are two or three north of us, two or three east and two or three south of us. Oh, we won't tell you about all of them this time, the highest bidder gets the best looking old bachelor.

DAISY.